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## Burma

## Grain and Feed

## Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - July 2003

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**Report Highlights:**

107,520 metric tons of beans and pulses were exported by Burma in July.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[BM]

## Trade

During July, Burma exported 107,520 metric tons (mt) of beans and pulses with 38 metric tons of Matpe through MaungTaw to Bangladesh via border trade. In July, Toor Whole (pigeon pea) comprised 39 percent, Black Matpe 38 percent and Mung beans 12 percent of the total beans and pulses export. The major destination was India who took 86 percent of the total exports. There was an increase of 5 percent in July exports compared to the same month of the previous year.

Bangladesh - a total of 6,324 mt of beans and pulses:

- 5,817 mt of Black Matpe
- 408 mt of Mung beans
- 99 mt of various beans

Belgium - a total of 69 mt of beans and pulses:

- 69 mt of Toor Whole (pigeon pea)

Germany - a total of 22 mt of beans and pulses:

- 22 mt of Kidney beans

India - a total of 92,288 mt of beans and pulses:

- 29,274 mt of Black Matpe
- 7,107 mt of Chick peas
- 1,207 mt of Kidney beans
- 11,434 mt of Mung beans
- 42,195 mt of Toor Whole (pigeon pea)
- 827 mt of Black eye beans
- 100 mt of Bamboo beans
- 144 mt of Various beans

Israel - a total of 87 mt of beans and pulses:

- 87 mt of Kidney beans

Italy - a total of 490 mt of beans and pulses:

- 132 mt of Black eye beans
- 358 mt of small white beans

Indonesia - a total of 44 mt of beans and pulses:

- 44 mt of Mung beans

Japan - a total of 1,121 mt of beans and pulses:

- 331 mt of Black Matpe
- 21 mt of Bamboo beans
- 20 mt of Mung beans
- 749 mt of various beans

Malaysia - a total of 478 mt of beans and pulses exported:

- 255 mt of Black eye beans
- 177 mt of Black Matpe
- 46 mt of Mung beans

Pakistan - a total of 4,843 mt of beans and pulses:

- 91 mt of Bamboo beans
- 4,415 mt of Black Matpe

115 mt of Kidney beans  
 115 mt of Chick peas  
 107 mt of Mung beans

Singapore - a total of 489 mt of beans and pulses:

119 mt of Bamboo beans  
 211 mt of Black Matpe  
 115 mt of Toor Whole (pigeon pea)  
 44 mt of various beans

Spain - a total of 42 mt of beans and pulses:

42 mt of Kidney beans

Sri Lanka - a total of 366 mt of beans and pulses:

275 mt of Black Matpe  
 91 mt of Mung beans

UAE - a total of 688 mt of beans and pulses:

69 mt of Black eye beans  
 115 mt of Black Matpe  
 504 mt of Mung beans

United Kingdom - a total of 131 metric tons of beans and pulses:

42 mt of Black eye beans  
 66 mt of small white beans  
 23 mt of Toor Whole (pigeon pea)

### Border Trade

38 mt of Black Matpe was exported through MaungTaw to Bangladesh via border trade.

Beans and Pulses Exports(mt)	2002	2003
January	56,238	43,885
February	71,161	65,471
March	89,864	70,011
April	110,323	88,772
May	127,052	51,591
June	87,163	100,893
July	102,306	107,520
August	80,651	
September	94,296	
October	81,810	
November	49,477	
December	27,193	
TOTAL	977,534	528,143
Others*		
GRAND TOTAL	977,534	528,143

\*=Export shipments not covered elsewhere

## Prices

Export prices set for beans and prices by Price Appraisal Committee that met on July, 2003 are: (FAQ) Fair Average Quality (SQ) Standard Quality

Black Matpe (FAQ) US\$ 170

Black Matpe (SQ) US\$ 210

Mung beans (FAQ) US\$ 290

Butter beans (Lima beans) (FAQ) US\$ 240

Toor Whole (pigeon pea) (FAQ) US\$ 240

## Domestic market situation

Prices remained depressed due to a continued weak demand for export and limited capital on hand for traders to carry out transactions. July export sales continued the rebound from the very weak May sales, but in CY 2003 export sales through July remain down approximately 18 percent against CY2002. Burmese bean traders usually procure 60-90 days out from expected shipments. August is the deadline for traders to repay back any outstanding loans held by the private banks. Nonetheless, traders have no idea of when they will get back their deposits and savings (as withdrawal limits are still in place). Most private companies have stopped buying beans and pulses in the market due to the weak export demand, except for the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, who are buying for the Ministry's exports. With the U.S. sanctions taking effect at the end of the month traders are at loss to carry out export transactions and most of the export trading business is coming to a halt. To make the matter worse some of the letter of credits (LCs) that were carried out before the approval of sanctions were caught midway between the bank transactions when the sanctions were implemented and are now frozen. Businessmen have no idea on how to recover these frozen LCs. In the coming months, exports are likely to come to a halt, including border trading. The only possible means would either be barter trading with traders in neighboring countries or "cash and carry" border trades. Credit sales are tied up by the imposition of the sanctions for the moment, as the U.S. dollar has been the international currency used as the international trading currency within Burma. Rumors in the market indicate that the GOB may promote the use of either the Singapore dollar or the Euro as the international trading base currency.

End of Report.